

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6475
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
MAHESHWAR DAM PROJECT
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of families displaced or ousted due to construction of Maheshwar Dam Project in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) whether any compensation has been paid to the affected families by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : As per the Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted to Central Electricity Authority by M/s Shree Maheshwar Hydro Electric Power Corporation Limited (SMHPCL), the promoters of the 400MW Maheshwar Hydro Electric Power Project in Madhya Pradesh, 2276 families (11821 persons) are required to be displaced/ousted due to construction of the project. Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board (MPEB), which is the implementing agency for the Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) package of the project, have informed that so far no family has been displaced at project site due to ongoing construction.

(b) & (c) : MPEB have informed that as per available records, M/s SMHPCL has paid an amount of Rs.27.39 lakhs to 258 families after obtaining approval from the competent authority of Government of Madhya Pradesh. The broad principles for Rehabilitation of displaced families are as under:-

i. The aim of the State Government is that all displaced families would after their relocation and resettlement improve, on at least regain their previous standard of living within a reasonable time.

ii. It would be ensured that no hardships caused to the displaced families in moving out from the present habitat into a new place and way of living.

iii. It would be ensured that no adverse social, economic and environmental affects of displacement would take place on the host communities.

iv. Special care would be taken of the families of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, marginal farmers and small farmers.

v. Families having legal titles to land and the encroachers would be treated on the same footing for the purpose of entitlement for compensation or for payment of an amount equivalent to compensation as the case may be and for their rehabilitation.

vi. No distinction would be made between the families displaced from revenue villages and the families displaced from the forest villages in respect of their rehabilitation.

vii. Reasonable compensation would be determined for the lands, buildings and other immovable assets acquired. Similarly, a reasonable cost would be charged for the lands that would be allotted at the new sites.

viii. Displaced families would be rehabilitated, maintaining the existing structure of social groups as far as possible, in the command area or near the periphery of the affected areas in accordance with their performances.

ix. Adequate physical and social infrastructure and community services would be provided at the new sites.

x. While resettling families entitled for allotment of land, it will be ensured that viable units of land are given.

xi. In order that in the process of resettlement, the new and host families get fully integrated, the displaced families would be encouraged and assisted in purchase of lands from voluntary sellers of the host villages.

xii. The rehabilitation policy be so implemented that middlemen and profiteers would get eliminated.

xiii. Landless agricultural labourers and non-agriculturist families would be assisted in rehabilitation at the new places by giving grant-in-aid in the initial period and self and wage employment opportunities.

xiv. Displaced families would be given priority in employment on the project construction.

(d) : Does not arise in view of reply to (b) and (c) above.